

REMARKS**A. Request for Reconsideration**

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

B. Claim Status and Amendments

Claims 1, 2, 4-17 and 19-21 are presented for further prosecution. Claim 21 has been added by this amendment.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3. Claims 3 and 18 have been cancelled.

Dependent claim 21 has been added to recite the number mean particle size of the toner particles. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 6.

C. Specification Amendments

Page 25 of the application has been amended to clarify that the islands illustrated in Figures 1A and 1B are islands "A" of the crystalline compound and islands "B" of the coloring agent.

D. The Office Action

The Examiner indicated that the subject matter of claims 3, 6 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-17, 19 and 20 had been rejected as being unpatentable over Yamauchi (U.S. 6,806,012) in view of Takehara (U.S. 6,190,816).

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable limitations of claim 3. Since all of the remaining claims include the limitations of claim 1, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance.

E. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending

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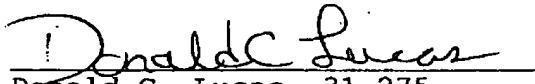
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condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and
authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

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